



C. Earl Hunter, Commissioner

Promoting and protecting the health of the public and the environment.

MAR 30 2010

Certified UST Site Rehabilitation Contractors

Re: Quality Assurance Program Plan for the UST Management Division

Dear Contractor:

The ultimate success of an environmental program depends on the quality of the environmental data collected and used in decision-making. To this end, the SC Department of Health and Environmental Control, in conjunction with the US Environmental Protection Agency, has developed the Underground Storage Tank Program's Quality Assurance Program Plan (QAPP).

The QAPP is an important tool to document the type and quality of data needed to make environmental decisions and to provide a blueprint for the collection, verification, and assessment of those data. The QAPP will replace all of the UST Program's guidance documents related to assessment, corrective action, and the risk-based corrective action process.

The QAPP is on the UST webpage at <http://www.scdhec.net/environment/lwm/html/ust.htm>. You are strongly encouraged to review the document and begin preparing to comply with it. The effective date for implementation of the QAPP will be July 1, 2010. All work initiated on or after this date will be subject to the requirements of the QAPP.

For contractors, the QAPP contains two significant new requirements:

1. The contractor will be required to prepare and submit an addendum to the QAPP for each project. While the QAPP gives specific direction, this addendum will fill in the site-specific, lab-specific, and contractor-specific information for each project. The contractor addendum form is found in Appendix B of the QAPP.
2. Contractors will be required to obtain SC DHEC Laboratory Certification for all field analyses that they are performing. This applies to analysis of such parameters as pH, Conductivity, Dissolved Oxygen, Temperature, Turbidity, and Ferrous Iron. The requirement for field analytical certification will be phased in over twelve months from July 2010 through June 2011. Commencing on July 1, 2011, contractors will be required to show current certification for field parameters in conjunction with the renewal of their UST Site Rehabilitation Contractor Certification.

Information concerning the application process for laboratory certification by in-state contractors is attached. Additional information is available on the Laboratory Certification webpage at <http://www.scdhec.gov/labcert>. There is an application fee of \$125.00. Once certified, an annual certification fee will apply. For field parameter labs, the \$125.00 minimum certification fee will include up to six inorganic parameters at \$20.00 each. Proficiency testing for certified parameters will be required on an annual basis. The Office of Environmental Laboratory Certification must receive applications for laboratory certification no later than close of business December 31, 2010. NOTE: Applications are processed in chronological order of receipt.

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Incomplete or deficient applications will result in a new receipt date based on the date of re-submittal. After June 30, 2011, any SC UST Site Rehabilitation Contractor that has not received certification for the required testing will be suspended until the laboratory certification is obtained.

A discussion forum for contractors will be held on April 30, 2010 at 9:00 a.m. in the Peebles Auditorium, located in the SCDHEC central offices at 2600 Bull St., Columbia, South Carolina. In order for us to better answer your questions, we ask that you review the QAPP and submit your questions by email by close of business on April 15, 2010. Due to capacity limitations in the Peebles Auditorium, we ask that each certified contractor send one representative to the discussion forum. Questions and registrations may be sent to the attention of Kajuana Britt at brittka@dhec.sc.gov.

We look forward to seeing you on April 30, 2010.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C. Doll', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Christopher S. Doll, P.G., QAPP Coordinator
UST Management Division
Bureau of Land and Waste Management

Att: In-State Inorganic Certification Checklist
Application for Environmental Laboratory Certification